

directed and also his Report thereon which follow in these Lib. M.  
Words.

Whereas it hath been represented to us that Great Delays as well as Unnecessary Expence, have been Occasioned in Causes in our Court of Chancery, for want of Proper Officers as well to take the Examinations and Depositions of Wittnesses Concerning the facts in Issue in such Causes as also to take & State Accounts Decreed & to be referred to such Officers for Report therein; all which is According to the present Practice done by Com̄cons Directed to Persons often illiterate and Incapable of doing the same we taking the same into Our Consideration, Do hereby require and Command our Chancellor to make Report to us touching the Truth of the said Representation and Return his Opinion and Judgment Concerning the same That such further Order may be made in the Premisses for the Expediting of Justice, as to us shall seem reasonable and Convenient.

To the Honourable Sam<sup>l</sup> Ogle Esq<sup>r</sup> Baltimore  
Chancellor of Our Province of Maryland.

In Obedience to an Order of the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary to me Directed whereby I am Commanded to make Report to his Lordshipp touching the Truth of a Representation, That great Delays as well as unnecessary Expences have been Occasioned in the Court of Chancery for want of Proper Officers as well to take the Examinations and Depositions of Wittnesses Concerning the facts in Issue in such Causes as also to take and State Accounts Decreed by the said Court, and to return my Opinion and Judgment Concerning the same, I Do Humbly Certifie that it is the Method and Practice of the Court of Chancery after Issue is Joyned in the Cause to take out a Commission Directed to four Commissioners Living in the County where the fact Arises, Whereby they are Authorized totake the Examination of Wittnesses Concerning the facts in Issue and (in Case the matter in Dispute be matter of Account) to take and settle all Accounts between the parties, Which Commissions are usually Executed in an Ordinary or Tavern, in the Publick hearing of the Parties, and for the Executing of which the Comm<sup>rs</sup> with the Clerk by them Chosen to Demand from the parties a fee of Ten Shillings a Man p Diem; and all their Expences to be paid during the time of their Sitting, Concerning which Method of Proceeding, my opinion is that besides the great Expence often Complaind of by the parties, the same is not only Dilatory, But also Irregular and preposterous, and a great meanes for the Increase

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